



## Department Of Insurance

P.O. Box 517  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602-0517  
(502) 564-3630

GEORGE NICHOLS III  
COMMISSIONER

PAUL E. PATTON  
GOVERNOR

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### For Immediate Release

Contacts: Roger Snell, Department of Insurance, (502) 564-6098

### Department of Insurance and Advantage Care Inc. go to court jointly for financial reasons

**FRANKFORT, KY.** – Advantage Care Inc. and the Kentucky Department of Insurance joined together today to ask the Franklin Circuit Court to allow state regulators to supervise daily operations of the Lexington health insurer because of financial trouble.

Kentucky Insurance Commissioner George Nichols III announced that Advantage Care and state insurance officials took the public action so that policyholders, providers and potential creditors would know as soon as possible that the company is no longer able to meet minimum financial requirements. The company's operations could end as early as Dec. 31.

"We want to encourage employees and employers to look for other coverage with other insurers as soon as they can," Nichols said, noting that 80 percent of Advantage Care's policyholders are currently facing renewals of coverage that would have taken effect on Jan. 1, 2001. Policyholders will have other choices and generally will find premiums are cheaper with other insurers.

"Advantage Care and the Department of Insurance joined together to pursue this court order because we both share the same desire to protect policyholders, assure continuity of health care and give them time to find another insurer," Nichols said.

Advantage Care provides health insurance to at least 36,000 Kentuckians in 55 counties of central and eastern Kentucky. Approximately 1,500 of those policyholders are covered by a state health insurance plan offered to state, county and public school employees in 14 counties.

Advantage Care policyholders and providers should continue processing any pending claims or pre-authorized treatments directly with Advantage Care as they have always done, Nichols said.

Consumers can call the department with general questions at 1-800-595-6053 and ask for Consumer Protection & Education. The department will also post any details that become available, on our web site, [www.doi.state.ky.us](http://www.doi.state.ky.us).

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